

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

OF AGRICULTURE AND APPLIED SCIENCE • EAST LANSING

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY

May 7, 1959

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics
Stanford University
Stanford, California

Dear Josh:

After long cogitation, I have decided to leave this institution at the end of the current academic year. The reasons for this decision are various, but they include a serious difference of orientation between my Department Head (Karl A. Stiles) and myself, and a general University situation which is not conducive to the development of a scholarly program. The latter problem would not be overwhelming if the former could be solved. Unfortunately all of my best efforts to find a solution have failed.

Since my decision is a firm one and I shall be moving in any case, I am taking the liberty of writing to you in this rather direct manner to explore the possibility that there might be a place for me and my group in the program that you are developing at Stanford.

You are acquainted with the nature of our work, and I am enclosing a recent progress report to bring you up to date. Our point-of-view, I think, combines that of the molecular biologist and biochemist with that of the Neurospora and Drosophila geneticist. Regardless of where I go, I shall take along with me some \$20,000 per year in research funds and a group consisting of four graduate students and one or two research associates. More important, however, is the desire to contribute effectively to the work of a modern biological department.

Needless to say, I shall deeply appreciate your consideration of this proposal. Apart from this possibility, it is important for me to circulate the word that I am available as widely as possible, and I would greatly appreciate anything that you can do along those lines.

Best regards to Esther.

Cordially yours,


Allen S. Fox